

the names of countries only upon the request of the Department of State. The present list includes the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and, following the dissolution of that country, Customs was guided by a policy determination of the Department of State which holds that absent a separate agreement to the contrary, the states emerging from the break-up of the USSR take the same rights and obligations as existed for the USSR.

By a letter received on September 16, 1996, Customs was informed by the Department of State that the Government of Ukraine was assessing discriminatory tonnage fees against vessels of the United States which enter at Ukrainian ports. As a consequence, the Department of State requested that action be taken to end the exemption from the assessment of special tonnage taxes and light money extended to Ukrainian vessels entering United States ports. Normally, Customs would be supplied with the names of countries to add to or delete from the regulatory list, but since discussion with other former Soviet states was on-going, it was determined to issue a non-amendatory notice by which to limit the exemption privilege by excluding Ukraine. The Department of State informed Customs that upon the conclusion of necessary discussions, Customs would be formally requested to add the names of certain countries to 19 CFR 4.22, and to delete the USSR from the regulation.

Therefore, effective immediately upon publication of a September 26, 1996, General Notice, vessels of Ukraine entering ports of the United States were no longer exempted from the assessment of special tonnage taxes and light money. Special tonnage taxes and light money in the amounts authorized under law were collected on all such vessels.

Customs has now been informed by the Department of State that appropriate written assurances have been supplied by the Government of Ukraine, indicating that vessels of the United States will be accorded the treatment called for under the Maritime Agreement which expired in December of 1995. Accordingly, it has been requested by the Department of State that for a period of thirty days from the date of notification to the Customs Service, vessels of Ukraine have restored to them the statutory exemption from the collection of special tonnage taxes and light money.

Therefore, effective immediately upon publication of this General Notice, and for a period of thirty calendar days which will expire on December 14, 1996, vessels documented under the laws of Ukraine are exempted from the collection of special tonnage taxes and light money.

Dated: November 15, 1996.  
Stuart P. Seidel,  
*Assistant Commissioner, Office of  
Regulations and Rulings*  
[FR Doc. 96-29774 Filed 11-20-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

#### **Office of Thrift Supervision**

**[AC-53; OTS No. 5120]**

#### **First Federal Savings Bank of America, Fall River, MA; Approval of Conversion Application**

Notice is hereby given that on November 12, 1996, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of First Federal Savings Bank of America, Fall River, Massachusetts, to convert to the

stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552, and the Northeast Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 10 Exchange Place, 18th Floor, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302.

Dated: November 15, 1996.  
By the Office of Thrift Supervision.  
Nadine Y. Washington,  
*Corporate Secretary.*  
[FR Doc. 96-29720 Filed 11-20-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6720-01-M

**[AC-52; OTS No. 2897]**

#### **Investors Federal Bank and Savings Association, Chillicothe, MO; Approval of Conversion Application**

Notice is hereby given that on November 8, 1996, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of Investors Federal Bank and Savings Association, Chillicothe, Missouri, to convert to the stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20552, and the Midwest Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 122 W. John Carpenter Freeway, Suite 600, Irving, Texas 75039-2010.

Dated: November 15, 1996.  
By the Office of Thrift Supervision.  
Nadine Y. Washington,  
*Corporate Secretary.*  
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